

TEMPLE ISRAEL-ANNUAL MEETING 2019

AGENDA

11 Iyar 5779 ♦ May 15, 2019

Please take the time before the meeting starts to review the committee reports that have been provided. There is no precedence implicit in the order of the reports.

1. OPENING PRAYER
2. WELCOME
3. CLERGY REPORTS
4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
5. Q & A ABOUT PRESENTED AND WRITTEN REPORTS
6. ELECTION OF 2019-2020 OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES
7. AVODAH AWARDS
8. FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT
9. TREASURER'S REPORT:
 - PRESENTATION OF THE 2019-2020 BUDGET AND DUES STRUCTURE
 - DISCUSSION
 - REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL PROPOSAL.
10. FUND FOR THE FUTURE
11. OLD BUSINESS
12. NEW BUSINESS
13. CLOSING PRAYER



DATES TO REMEMBER Always check www.templeisraelsiny.org for latest information

Mat & Chair Yoga – no Yoga in May. Resumes in June – Sundays at 6 PM, Wednesdays at 8 pm (new time)

May 16 ... 8 PM: Adult Learning: Book Discussion at Judith Pessah's home

May 17 ... 6 PM I*Shabbat

6:30 PM Shabbat Shalom dinner – traditional Shabbat dinner. RSVP requested

8 PM Shabbat service; Oneg sponsored by Judy Lee

May 18 ... Night at the Races – see Rhonda, Lissa or Karen

May 19 ... UJA Breakfast – Pamela Carlton and Pamela Rogozin are the Temple Israel nominees

May 21 ... Adult Learning – “Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean at the Noble Maritime Museum

May 22 ... Brotherhood End of Year Dinner at Cielo's

May 23 ... 6:30 pm Sisterhood Meeting & General Elections – light dinner & game night.

May 30 ... Adult Learning – Tour of “Urban Glass Factory” followed by lunch at Juniors. Time TBD

May 31 ... 8 PM Shabbat Service. Original Shabbat service composed by Kita Gimmel

Oneg sponsored by Karen & Jerry Gross

June 2 .. Annual Gala honoring Bryn Biren – please RSVP to Jodi

June 8 Erev Shavuot & Confirmation

June 9 Shavuot Festival Service & Yizkor, followed by a bring-a-diary-dish-to-share luncheon

June 14 .. 8 PM – Board Installation at Shabbat Services

Mark your calendars:

June 11 – Sisterhood End of Year dinner

June 20 – Lets Eat & Raise some dough – dining to donate at Jimmy Maxx all day.

June 21 – Brotherhood & Sisterhood Installation Shabbat

June 23 – Brotherhood Paid up Breakfast

This file contains the distributed report package plus transcripts of the Rabbi's and Co-President's reports and the School committee report.

DON'T BE LEFT OUT

Are you staying informed about Temple Israel?

- Get our Weekly News & Notes email on Wednesdays with family happenings, calendar reminders and Temple information.
- E-Shalom is mailed monthly, including the summer!

See the last page or send an email to Lara in the Temple office at

TMPLISRAEL@AOL.COM



TEMPLE ISRAEL REFORM CONGREGATION OF STATEN ISLAND

April 1, 2019

Dear Temple Officers and Trustees:

The Nominating Committee of Temple Israel, consisting of two trustees appointed by Presidents Jerry Gross and Alan Siegel (Rhonda Trontz-Allen and Claire Guttsman) and three Temple members elected by the congregation at large (Jeffrey Chason, Judith Pessah and James Rohan) presents the following slate for the coming term, June 1,2019-May 31,2020.

OFFICERS FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR EXPIRING IN MAY 2020

Co-PresidentsJerrold Gross & Alan Siegel
First Vice PresidentLibby Gershansky & Larry Hanibal
Second Vice President.....David Meltzer & Nina Rohan
TreasurerJeffrey Ganz
Financial SecretaryJennifer Straniere
Recording SecretaryBrian Cortijo
Corresponding SecretaryBryn Biren

TRUSTEES FOR A FIRST TERM OF THREE YEARS EXPIRING IN MAY 2022

Shariann Ganz Alina Shteynberg Philip Straniere

TRUSTEES FOR A SECOND TERM OF THREE YEARS EXPIRING IN MAY 2022

Joseph Gamoran

TRUSTEES FOR A TERM OF ONE YEAR EXPIRING IN May 2020

Jennifer Cortijo Barbara Feigelman Felicia Holtzman-Otto
Cheryl Levine Judy Scher Lissa Winchel

TRUSTEES CONTINUING TO SERVE IN A THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING IN MAY 2020

Deanna Feder Claire Guttsman Rebecca Hand
Irwin Magnus Sandy Mazzucco Judith Pessah

TRUSTEES CONTINUING TO SERVE IN A THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING IN MAY 2021

Barbara Fried Beverly Mazer Blanche Ricci Pamela Rogozin
Jodi Siegel Inez Singer Rhonda Trontz-Allen

HONORARY TRUSTEE Arnold Grossman

On behalf of the Board, we wish to thank the following for their service and are leaving the Board:
Vice President JR Rich and Recording Secretary Paul Bierman

We thank Judy Scher for her service and who is leaving the Executive Board and returning to a Trustee position

And we thank the following Trustees who have accepted the responsibility of serving on the Executive Board:

Bryn Biren, Brian Cortijo, Libby Gershansky, David Meltzer and Nina Rohan

Respectfully submitted

Nominating Committee (Jeffrey Chason, Rhonda Trontz-Allen, James Rohan, Judith Pessah and Claire Guttsman).

Report to the Congregation May 15, 2019:

Rabbi Michael D. Howald

The last year has been a year with a number of highlights and milestones worthy of note at tonight's congregational meeting. June 30th will mark the end of my ninth year at Temple Israel. This marks the second year of my third contract with Temple Israel. Robin and I both have become part of this community and we hope the congregation feels the same. We hope to have some exciting and innovative things planned for next year as well but, before I touch briefly on them, I wanted to mention some highlights of the past year.

Our religious school enrollment has almost doubled this year to over 40 students due to the generosity of the Avis Foundation. We also have a revitalized School Board, led by Jennifer Cortijo, that has worked closely with me to plan curriculum and scheduling for next year. We hope to purchase a new curriculum for next year's class, including a new program from the URJ called Hebrew in Harmony, a program to teach prayers to students through music. We also are looking to purchase an additional curriculum to teach Jewish and ethical values to supplement our instruction about Torah, Jewish holidays, Hebrew consonants and vowels.

We will only have one bar-mitzvah this year, Ethan Kaminsky. On June 15th, he will be called to the Torah as a b'nei mitzvah to read from Parashat Naso from the book of Numbers. Next year we have a number of benei-mitzvah scheduled as our younger students age up to 13. Our primary method of preparation for bar and bat mitzvah, beyond the group classes, continues to be one-on-one tutoring to strengthen preparation for bar and bat mitzvah. This summer we will continue tutoring of students on a weekly or bi-weekly basis to insure that knowledge gained over the school year does not disappear over the summer break. This year we continued the Sunday/Wednesday schedule in Religious School and we plan on continuing that for the year ahead. We will continue with this schedule next year. We will also schedule a pre-confirmation class, ideally on Wednesday of the week. Due to the small number of students in the class, and the age of the students, we will not going to the Holocaust Museum this year. I am not sure if the funding for the trip will continue in the years ahead.

We will have 3 confirmands this year, Landon Levine, Phineas Larson and Noah Miller. On Erev Shavuot, the confirmands will read the Aseret HaDerot, the Ten Commandments, and will offer meaningful comments their course of study here at Temple Israel. I once again invite any adults who may not have been confirmed to contact me about doing an adult confirmation. Erev Shavuot services will take place on Saturday night, June 8th.

This year we were pleased to welcome Student Cantor Jennifer Benrey to Temple Israel. In addition to leading services on Friday night, she has also been teaching Kitah Gimel on Sunday, as well as leading music instruction during part of the Religious School day. We have also tried to reestablish a student choir, although calendar conflicts made scheduling choir practice more challenging than we had anticipated. I also want to note the efforts of Shari Ann Ganz, Joanna Meltzer, Brooke Lopez and Daneil Meltzer who continue to be the backbone of our school. I note that we have also added, with the able assistance of Brooke Lopez, a Parent

and Me class for the youngest students. I am pleased that our student cantor, Jennifer Benrey, will be joining us again next year for the High Holidays and for the rest of the year.

We continued to innovate at services and Holidays throughout the year by introducing new music and different approaches to the holidays. This year, we used Mishkan HaNefesh, the Reform movement's new High Holy Day prayer book, exclusively for our High Holiday Services. This coming year, we plan on completing our transition to the new High Holy Day prayer book. We have also, with the guidance of our Student Cantor, moved to a more equal mix of guitar and organ music through the course of our Friday night services.

As part of my commitment to the greater Staten Island community, I have been involved in the past year as a board member of the CSI:Hillel, as board member with the Chai Society, and as a member of the Staten Island Clergy Leadership Coalition. I have been particularly involved in organizing and leading Friendship Dinners at various locations across Staten Island in an effort to bring together people from various backgrounds over a meal in order to understand one another better. I anticipate continuing with that involvement and trying to advance my understanding of the Staten Island community as much as my duties to the synagogue allow.

I continue to perform numerous life-cycle events for the congregation, only declining to do so when away on vacation or because of a conflict with another, previously scheduled, life-cycle event for another congregant. As in the past, I endeavor to perform every life-cycle event I am called upon to do unless it conflicts with another synagogue event. I also perform life-cycle events for the progressive Jewish community here on Staten Island but, as in the past, I always give priority to synagogue events and the needs of our congregation.

I have continued my involvement in the life of this congregation, attending almost every executive and board meeting, as well as ritual committee, school board and some membership and social action committee meetings as well.

Finally, I continue to make myself available to lay leadership and members alike to discuss your concerns or just life in general. In the give and take of those discussions, I have been willing to try new approaches suggested to me and have also repeatedly responded positively to constructive criticism of past events in order to strengthen the partnership between clergy and the lay leadership of this congregation. I continue to believe that, though we may respectfully disagree on occasion, we all have the benefit and well-being of the congregation at heart.

Co-President's Annual Report Jerrold Gross & Alan Siegel

Welcome to our annual Congregational meeting.

Bryn had summed it up perfectly last year when she said “during the past year Rabbi Michael Howald has served as our spiritual leader, the educational director of our Religious School, a teacher at our Religious School, private tutor to our students, the community face of Temple Israel, our foremost representative of social justice and our unparalleled source of consolation in times of need.” Rabbi, we are so fortunate to have you as our leader. We look forward to the coming years as uplifting and strong experiences.

We are also lucky that our student cantor, Jennifer Benrey, is continuing with us next year. Her strong voice and unique talents constantly enrich our congregational life, and we also get surprises like last Friday's Israeli dancing after Shabbat services. Our choir has continued to develop their talents under her, and we welcomed five new voices – Ellen Birch, Sam Gornstein, Ken Pickover, Pamela Rogozin and Luigia Weisner who joined Bryn Biren, Pamela Carlton, Scott Fuller, Karen Gross, Wayne Kalish, Andy Kass, Judy Lee, Beverly Mazer, Judith Pessah, Jim Rohan, Jodi Siegel and Shari Stein-Ballow in the choir box. We also thank our organists Norman Lindscheid and Elona Migirov. And to round out the Shabbat Music, let us acknowledge Jerry Mulnick, Blanche Ricci, and, when he is not in the choir box, Jim Rohan.

The peacefulness of the Shabbat and High Holy Day services are kept by Nina Rohan and her ushering crew, and Shabbat is rounded out Sisterhood members who prepare the Oneg, serve the wine and juice and handle the dispensing of coffee and tea.

Our office manager, Lara Calderon has been with us for the past six years. We have continued to budget for a full time office because we never know when a congregant needs to access our services as well as the vendors and service providers who come at all hours. Rounding out the building's paid staff is our main custodian, Gerard Altieri who will soon be reaching his 3rd anniversary with us. We also have weekend custodians.

Currently, our Religious School, on Sundays, uses a departmental format, but with the influx of young families, that may be changing. For now, each session begins with a 30 minute religious service for all children in the sanctuary. Rabbi Howald and Student Cantor Benrey teach the pre *Bar and Bat* Bar Mitzvah students, while Shariann Ganz, Brooke Lopez and Joanna Meltzer, with assistance from Daniel Meltzer, instruct the younger children. Brooke Lopez wrote and produced the " Troll-tastic" Purim Shpiel. We also want to recognize Jennifer Cortijo who is working with the Religious School parents to build a committee to help the school.

We have the privilege of overseeing a talented and hardworking Executive Board. We want to thank JR Rich, who is leaving the Board, for helping reorganize the Membership Committee, leading the effort to re-instituting the re-envisioned Shabbat Shalom Dinners and generally raising our collective consciousness about environmental issues and what we can do about them. Paul Bierman is also stepping down, but we trust will continue to provide us with legal guidance.

Larry Hanibal is tireless in his efforts to persuade you to purchase certificates, and of course richly deserves the title “Mr. Rummage Sale.” He does everything in his power to keep Temple strong. Jennifer Straniere spends countless hours on the phone, making sure everyone is up to date on their obligations to support Temple, while ensuring that membership is in everyone's reach. Jeff Ganz as Treasurer rides herd on our funds. As you will see later in the evening, that is no small task, but Jeff gives unstintingly of his time, and still finds the hours to run Brotherhood. You could think that Corresponding secretary is a nothing job, but that position gives Judy Scher an important voice at discussions at the Executive Board that are incisive and thought provoking. We will miss that as she returns to the regular Board and we hope she will continue to share her insights there. The Corresponding Secretary is also responsible for News & Notes. Judy is also helping with parenting.

Earlier she held a seminar "Parenting in the 21st Century," and next month will lead a thought-provoking session on "Grandparenting in the 21st Century" on June 24.

Temple Israel's Caring Community is known throughout Staten Island and makes us the envy of other organizations. In times of need and loss Pamela Rogozin and her committee are there. They have organized Shiva minyans, meals for congregants and rides to doctor's visits too many times to mention. Thank you, thank you!

We are approaching the start of the season for two of our members who serve each one of us. They are Linda Brill and Jeff Ganz. As much hard work as they do on the Ritual Committee, it does not compare to the work that they lead in organizing our beautiful High Holy Day Services. They make it look too easy. It is not. They deserve your thanks for years and years of dedication to this task.

It is almost two years since Dr. Ronald Avis dangled what Bryn Biren thought was an innocent invitation to breakfast at the Kings Arms. Since that time Bryn and Terry Baver worked tirelessly to guide the Avis Foundation and they have brought us many new young families. The face of Temple Israel is changing thanks to them, and we don't need to think about Geritol anymore.

Ron's generosity goes beyond financially supporting the new families. Through the Foundation, we have been able to provide Robotics classes, music classes, classes at the Noble Museum, and so on. They are working on next year's programs, which will be just as challenging and attractive. And not everything the Avis foundation offers is strictly for young families. They sponsor our Yoga program, which resumes in June, and events like next week's lecture on "Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean."

We also treasure the support of Brotherhood and Sisterhood. We don't want to drag this out, so we refer you to the printed reports. Don't forget to be amazed at the financial support that Sisterhood provides Temple or the unique family events that Brotherhood oversees like the Purim Carnival, Hanukkah party and annual BBQ. Please become a member and support their events.

We must take one more opportunity to express our deep appreciation to Steven Scher for revitalizing the Rabbi Marcus Kramer Memorial Library. It is the biggest collection of Judaica on Staten Island. Come in and browse. It is open during religious school hours and by appointment over the summer.

Maintaining a building that has entered its Golden years is not an easy task. And as we have often stressed, with age comes uniqueness. That is not always a good thing like when a vendor hands you a five figure estimate for something like the accordion doors behind you. But we do the best we can. Previous fund-raising drives enabled us to rebuild our heating and air conditioning systems, but they always need work. Please be generous when a fundraising opportunity comes your way.

We don't have time to highlight all the committees—but look at the reports and see what your fellow congregants have done, from Social Action to Adult Learning. And there are people and committees that are not reflected in the reports. They include Linda Brill who makes sure the Saturday morning service is supplied with wine, challah and cookies. Nina Rohan ensuring there are ushers and Bimah honorees at Shabbat services. Jodi Siegel and Jennifer Straniere who head up the Gala Committee and Claire Guttsman who shepherds the Gala Journal. Judith Pessah and Jim Rohan who help coordinate the choir. Jodi again for E-Shalom and Joanna Meltzer for our website. Karen Gross who sends out the acknowledgements listed in the Shabbat Program and Barbara Fried who thanks outside donors for their contributions. And that gives us an opening to plug the Shabbat program. It is a great platform to thank people, celebrate people and special days or remember a loved one. Please support Temple by donating to a fund with an acknowledgement in the weekly Shabbat program.

Shortly, with Avodah awards, we will again have the chance to publicly thank our volunteers.

Finally, look at the calendar on the front of your meeting package. Look at all the events – every one driven by the volunteer efforts of your fellow congregants. Please take advantage of these opportunities.

THE DR. RONALD AVIS FOUNDATION FOR TEMPLE ISRAEL

The Dr. Ronald Avis Foundation for Temple Israel finished its second year. Eighteen families have now joined using the funding available for membership support.

Temple Israel family programming funded by the foundation included a STEAM program, CulturEats program, four theatre classes at Wagner College, a show by a magician, two children’s programs at the Noble museum, a summer hike in the Greenbelt, a Temple Israel night at the SI Children’s Museum, yoga classes for adults, a get together for the moms to get feedback on the program, and support for an Adult Ed program at the Noble Museum.

The three CulturEats programs were created by Alina Shteynberg. They focused on Korean, Colombian and Indian cuisines for children 9+. They ignited kids’ curiosity as they learned about world cultures through hands on experiences with food. The programs were so popular that we offered two sessions for adults in the spring. Alina will be doing more programming next year.

The STEAM programs (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) were held at The Resource Room. Our children were placed in two groups, 5-8 and 9-12. They experienced six classes in STEAM and two additional programs entitled Painting With a Twist where they created their own murals. Some of next year’s programs at The Resource Room will focus on specific Jewish themes.

We also purchased audio video equipment, covered the cost of a Torah teaching program for Rabbi to attend, and supported other Jewish organizations through journal ads, as well as Temple Israel fundraisers.

Respectfully submitted
Terry Baver and Bryn Biren



**FUND FOR THE FUTURE REPORT TO
CONGREGATION MAY 2019**

The Fund for the Future Committee was formed eight years ago with the guidance and input of Dr. Ron Avis who was instrumental in the last major Capital Improvement campaign for Temple Israel. (Next Generation)This campaign is intended to fund the capital improvements of our building and grounds; the committee is chaired by Jeff Ganz . The secretary of the committee is Dr. Judy Scher.

To date we have pledged contributions of approximately \$525,000.00. We wish to thank all those that have made a pledge and submitted their installments of their pledge. A pledge can be paid over a period of 5 years. We have had some congregants who have submitted their entire pledge in one payment.

We thank all those who have committed to this very important undertaking of our Temple. All work and decisions will be brought to the Board of Trustee’s for approval and a number of bids for each project will be obtained prior to any decisions being made on how to proceed.

We are happy to report that most of our Board of Trustees has made pledges to this fund and we thank them for their support. In addition we are at a point now where many people have honored their original Commitment. As you know this building is aging and definitely need Capital Funding to keep it in a state of good use. If you are so inclined to re commit to any amount that would be greatly appreciated. This Temple is ours let’s make sure it is here for all of us for many more years.

If anyone has any concerns or ideas, or if anyone wishes to make a pledge please feel free to talk with myself or the President of the congregation.

Respectfully submitted

Jeff Ganz

Committee on Religious School
Annual Report
May 15, 2019

It has been my honor to work with the parents and teachers of the Religious School, and of course, Rabbi Howald. It's been a busy and productive academic year.

The Committee on Religious School met several times this year, to plan parent participation in school events and assemblies, and to gather and discuss parent feedback about Temple Israel's educational programs. I am happy to report strong attendance and enthusiastic participation in those meetings.

During our meetings this year, parent suggestions regarding the school had these dominant themes:

- Deepening knowledge and understanding of the Shabbat prayer services
- Needing more individuation and adaptation within religious school classes to accommodate students with different abilities and learning styles
- Making the curriculum and pedagogy exciting and fun, with project-based, experiential, and multi-sensory learning opportunities
- Improving teacher/parent communication regarding curriculum, goals, and student progress

To harness the talents of the Religious School parents, the Committee has set out certain defined leadership roles for the 2019-2020 academic year. These roles will be avenues to utilize and develop out families' personal investment in the Religious School and ultimately the congregation as a whole. With more of our capable Religious School family members committed to active participation and leadership in the Religious School Committee, our capacity of to provide support to our teachers and Rabbi Howald and to create new initiatives will grow tremendously.

Our final meeting of the year will be this coming Sunday, May 19th at 10:15am. We will be discussing general school issues and selecting the Committee's leadership team for the coming year.

Since the beginning of my service to as chair of the Committee on Religious School, I have been having regular meetings and conversations with Rabbi Howald about how we can best update our religious school curriculum and methods with the goal of, as Rabbi Howald calls it, "raising the Bar." I am pleased to let you know that we have chosen an exciting, brand new curriculum, "Hebrew in Harmony," for grades 4-6 to strengthen their Hebrew reading and develop comprehension of the prayers of the Shabbat service. This curriculum is sure to increase our students comfort and confidence with the liturgy, and increase preparedness for b'nai mitzvah.

The rabbi and I are continuing our work toward updating the curricula and pedagogical modalities for other subjects and classes. We plan to initiate the first wave of these improvements in September, with a second wave in January 2020.

Due to increased enrollment and curricular changes, we anticipate that the Religious School will need one more class level and at least one more teacher in the coming year. The youngest class will include three grades (3K-K); all other classes will includes two grades and will have curricula on a two-year cycle.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Cortijo
Chair, Committee on Religious School

2018-2019 Annual Ritual Report to the Congregation May 15, 2019

In general, the Committee meets monthly. The members of the Ritual Committee are Co-Chairs Linda Brill and Jeffrey Ganz, Shariann Ganz, Sue Freedman, Barbara Fried, Jerrold Gross, Claire Guttsman, Sally Koren, Beverly Mazer, David Meltzer, Nina Rohan, Muriel Schlefstein, Jodi Siegel and Fred Simon. Rabbi Howald, our co-Presidents Jerrold Gross and Alan Siegel and our Sisterhood Co-Presidents Shari Ganz, Jodi Siegel and Brotherhood President Jeff Ganz are “non-voting” members of the Committee. We note that Shariann Ganz, Jodi Siegel and Jeffrey Ganz serve as voting members of the committee while at the same time representing the respective affiliate organizations as a representative to the committee and co-President Jerry Gross is a long-time voting member of the Committee

As a standing committee of the congregation the Ritual Committee is charged with interacting with our clergy to assure that the form and substance of worship and ritual at Temple Israel meets the needs and desires of the Congregation. Specific duties can include but are not limited to:

- a) Planning worship services in consultation with the clergy;
- b) Support of worship services including prayer books;
- c) Working with clergy to ensure coverage of services during scheduled and emergency absences of clergy;
- d) Life cycle event planning, including guides for congregants;
- e) Ritual related policies, and
- f) Supporting the spiritual life of the Congregation.

Subcommittees may be appointed at the discretion of the committee chairs in consultation with the President(s) to accomplish special tasks e.g.: ushering, bookplates, the annual Memory Book, High Holy Day honors, framing of the Confirmation Pictures, Memorial Walls, reviewing the newly published High Holy Day Machzor “Mishkan HaNefesh”.

In keeping with the above delineated responsibilities, we note the following for the year 2018-2019.

The committee worked hard over the 2018 summer months to plan for the High Holy Days and fulfill its responsibility of organizing the congregational participation. Since the Machzor Mishkan HaNefesh was being used for all the High Holy Day Services this year, the rewriting and changing of cues and parts was required. Meetings were held and in consultation with other lay leaders we selected congregants for High Holy Day honors. All participants contributed to the congregation in some manner-whether with time, financial support and/or wisdom. Participation was confirmed and adjusted when necessary. We note that you can dedicate the two volume Machzor Mishkan Hanefesh in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend for a donation of \$54.00

Our Memory Book subcommittee was chaired by the co-chairs of the Ritual Committee with the support of our committee members and with the technical support of Jerrold Gross and Luke’s Print Shop. Congregants and friends were contacted by mail and by phone follow-ups for updates to their Memory Book entries and for inquiring about new entries and new participants.

Supplies were ordered and we thank Nina and Jim Rohan for the making of boutonnieres worn by our ushers during the High Holy Day Services. Thank you also to Jennifer Straniere for touching up the High Holiday Silk Flowers

Ritual committee member Nina Rohan assisted with the honors for Sukkot and Simchat Torah.

Committee Co-chair Linda Brill along with Board Member Libby Gershansky purchased the Lulavs and Etrogs for Sukkot. They were ordered thru Roy Smuckler of the Jewish Foundation School.

The Ritual Committee was responsible for the repasts provided for Selichot and Yom Hashoah. We note for Selichot, the evening included the light repast, Havdalah, a program titled “Does Sin Matter” led by Rabbi Howald and a Service led by both Rabbi Howald and our new Student Cantor Jennifer Benrey using the prayer book Mishkan HaLev. As always, the Selichot Prayer Book can be dedicated in honor or in memory of a loved one or

friend with a donation of \$18.00. During this Service the Torah Covers were changed to the white High Holiday Covers. The Committee arranges for the Torah Covers to be cleaned and coordinates with Sisterhood for the cleaning of the Ritual Silver prior to this observance.

Co-President Jerry Gross, in consultation with Professor Lori Weintrob, Director, Wagner College Holocaust Center was instrumental in obtaining the speakers for Temple Israel's 30th Annual Observance of Yom Hashoah on Thursday May 2nd. The speakers included the above-mentioned Professor Lori Weintrob, Jennifer Hermus, Holocaust Educator, Susan Wagner High School, and Bethany Friedman, Holocaust Center student intern and Founder, Shir Levav (Sing With the Heart) which arranges for students to sing to Holocaust survivors. A discussion was held on why we should never forget. A Service followed in the Sanctuary led by Rabbi Howald and Student Cantor Benrey. Light refreshments were provided. Thank you to all who helped with set-up and clean-up, Jerry Gross for the publicity flyer and making sure the Service was available.

Temple Israel also participated in the Community Holocaust Remembrance on Sunday May 5th held this year at the Bernikow JCC. The program was titled "Conspiracy for Goodness. How French Protestants Rescued Thousands." The guest speaker Renee Silver. Co-President Jerry Gross had a reading. Rabbi Howald presented our Holocaust Torah, passing it on to the next generation represented by Phineas Larson. Our students were invited to participate in the Children's Candle Procession that evening, we thank Phineas's siblings for attending.

New this year was a "Gathering of Holocaust Memorial Scrolls" on Tuesday February 5th at the Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum at Temple Emanuel in Manhattan. Temple Israel was represented by Rabbi Howald who presented our Holocaust Scroll and congregants Alan Siegel, Jodi Siegel and Libby Gershansky.

Purim was celebrated on Wednesday, March 20th with the reading of the Megillah and a Purim Spiel titled "Troll-tastic Purim Spiel". The Spiel was written, directed and choreographed by Brooke Lopez based on the 2016 DreamWorks animated film "Trolls" and the movie's original screenplay. The Spiel included the enthusiastic participation of many of our students and adults. Thank you to Brooke Lopez, cast and crew for their many hours of dedication. Rabbi Howald and Student Cantor Jennifer Benrey presented a mini pre-Spiel. The celebration was augmented by groggers, hamentaschen and Shalach Manot Bags arranged for by Sisterhood and Brotherhoods Purim Carnival Sunday March 24th. Special thanks to Shalach Manot committee members Linda Hanibal, Blanche Ricci and Deanna Feder.

Tu'B Shevat was observed at a pre-Tu B Shevat themed Service and Oneg Friday night January 11th at 8:00 PM. The Religious School observed TuB'Shevat on Sunday January 13th.

Shabbat Shira was observed on Friday night January 18th and included not only the participation of our clergy but also organist Alex Violette, the Adult Choir, the Junior Choir, members of the Rock of Israel Band and soloists. Torah was chanted and inspiring words of Martin Luther King were read.

The current CCAR Press Passover Haggadah "Sharing Our Journey"- The Haggadah for the Contemporary Family" was used again this year for the first night Community Seder led by Rabbi Howald and Student Cantor Jennifer Benrey held on April 19th. Sisterhood again hosted the Community Seder. Our gratitude to Jennifer Straniere and her committee for organizing the Seder.

A Refugee Shabbat was observed on October 19th with guest speaker Henry Salmon. Congratulations to those who made this special Service happen.

Thank you to Jodi and Alan Siegel for making laminated Kiddush prayer cards for Friday Erev Shabbat and Saturday morning Services. They are available for reference on the Kiddush table.

Continuing this year on the first Friday of the month at 6:00 PM (5:45PM starting this past April) is No Shush Shabbat, Shabbat Services for children who have difficulty sitting still, appropriate for children with special needs,

ages 4+ and their families. Also continuing this year was I-Shabbat, a Service for young families, most appropriate for families with children up through 2nd grade on the third Friday of the month (except the summer months) at 6:00 PM. It is an interactive Shabbat Service that includes movement, music, dance and storytelling and concludes with challah and juice. We thank Inez Singer and Joanna Meltzer for their dedication to No Shush Shabbat and Nina and Jim Rohan for their dedication to I-Shabbat who along with Rabbi and Cantor made these Services happen.

Our Family Services continued the first Friday of the month at 7:30 PM (7:00 PM starting this past April) using the prayer book "Mishkan T'Filah for Youth". Twenty-Five additional copies of this prayer book were ordered and received and are available at the Family Service. Again, you may dedicate a copy of this prayer book in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend for a donation of \$36.

It came to the attention to the Ritual Committee during a Focus Group meeting that there was a need for a clearer description of the various Erev Shabbat Services offered so that families could decide what Service was appropriate for them. The Committee therefore worked with Rabbi Howald on descriptions of the various types of Erev Shabbat Services. Once the descriptions were finalized a listing of "Erev Shabbat Services at Temple Israel Reform Congregation of Staten Island" was included in the February E- Shalom bulletin (and subsequent bulletins) and a poster was placed in the lobby. In addition, the Committee continued to explore ways to be more welcoming of children to worship by determining: What Adults Can Do, What Parents Can Do and What Children Can Do. Using a handout made available to the Committee by Rabbi Howald, appropriate changes were made and included in E: Shalom starting in February.

The committee arranges the lay leadership for Services and Torah Study during the year including the summer when Rabbi is away or on vacation. Thank you to Jaimie Blackman, Linda Brill, Pam Carlton, Barbara Fried, Jeffrey Ganz, Libby Gershansky, Jerrold Gross, Judy Lee, Rochelle Maltz, JR Rich, Jim Rohan, Muriel Schlefstein, Alan Tepper and Luigia Wiesner.

Thanking our Student Cantor Search Committee chaired by Jeffrey Ganz, we welcomed our new Student Cantor Jennifer Benrey. Although she rehearsed with the Adult Choir over the summer months, her first Service was in September 2018 at Selichot. We are grateful that she has joined us at Temple Israel and look forward to the coming year as she has decided to continue with us for another year. We appreciate her musical leadership and talent along with that of our Adult Choir, organists Norman Linscheid, Elona Migarova and Alex Violette who provided musical accompaniment. Cellist Vincent Moncada provided musical accompaniment for the Adult Choir for the High Holidays 5779. Further we are grateful for the participation of congregant Jim Rohan and some Adult Choir members at our summer 2018 Friday night Shabbat Services and other dates when our student Cantor was away,

We congratulate the 5779 Confirmation Class of Phineas Larson, Landon Levine and Noah Miller and their families. They will become confirmed on Erev Shavuot Saturday night June 8th at 7:30 PM. Please plan to join us for this special Service.

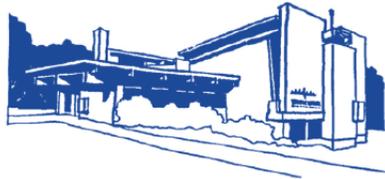
We also congratulate Ethan Kaminsky and his family. Ethan will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday Shabbat morning June 15th.

The Confirmation Picture subcommittee including co-chair Linda Brill, volunteers Karen Gross, Linda Hanibal and Blanche Ricci plan to continue this summer to prepare additional student and adult Confirmation Pictures and Adult B'nei Mitzvah Pictures that we have for framing as well as determining additional names of the students and teachers found in the pictures already hung.

We thank the members of our committee and our clergy Rabbi Howald and Student Cantor Benrey for their support this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Brill and Jeffrey Ganz, Co-Chairpersons



**WELCOMING CHILDREN TO WORSHIP
AT
TEMPLE ISRAEL REFORM CONGREGATION OF STATEN ISLAND**

Temple Israel Reform Congregation of Staten Island strives to be an open and welcoming environment for all people, none more so than our children.

Children learn about Judaism, worship and belonging to a spiritual community by participating in services and religious programs. Children learn about being a synagogue family member by being with their synagogue family. At Temple Israel, we believe it is a joy, privilege, and responsibility of every person in our community to guide and nurture our children in the Jewish faith.

WHAT CAN ADULTS DO?

- ✧ Welcome children by name and wish them a Shabbat Shalom or Yom Tov.
- ✧ Be patient as children learn to use their 'synagogue voices'.
- ✧ Help parents know their children are both welcome and wanted in synagogue by thanking them for coming to services.
- ✧ Read with and point out to children the parts of the service in the prayer books and encourage them to sing along or use picture and activity books.

WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

- ✧ Relax and know we are very glad you and your children are here. Participate as you are able.
- ✧ If your child must leave the sanctuary, ensure that they have adult supervision.
- ✧ Make use of picture or activity books as you need, or bring your own silent, age appropriate activities.
- ✧ Encourage your children to come up to the Bimah whenever they are invited.

WHAT CAN CHILDREN DO?

- ✧ Know how happy we are to have you as part of our synagogue family and that you are loved and treasured.
- ✧ If it's hard sitting still, use a picture or activity book or try to follow along with the songs and the service. Feel free to bring a silent activity of your own from home. Ask your parents to take you to the lobby or outside when you need a break.
- ✧ Remember that prayer books are sacred and treat them with respect.
- ✧ Remember that when people get older it becomes harder to hear when noise is going on around them so try to use your quiet, synagogue voice while others are speaking or singing. Feel free to follow along with prayers in your regular singing voice.
- ✧ Watch the adults, learn, ask questions, and be a part of the service.
- ✧ Please come up to the Bimah when you are invited! We LOVE to see you!
- ✧ **REMEMBER THAT WE LOVE THAT YOU ARE HERE WITH US!**

Erev Shabbat Services at Temple Israel Reform Congregation of Staten Island

NO SHUSH SHABBAT

- 30-minute Shabbat Service on the 1st Shabbat of the month at 5:45 pm
- For children 4 and older who have difficulty sitting still
- Appropriate for children with special needs
- Share, sing, pray, learn together with Rabbi Howald
- Service begins in non-traditional setting
- Sweet ending of juice and mini-challah rolls

I-SHABBAT

- 30-minute Shabbat service on the 3rd Shabbat of the month at 6pm.
- Held in the Sanctuary
- Most appropriate for families with children up through 2nd grade
- Lively, fun, interactive Shabbat service with Rabbi, Cantor and congregants
- Movement, music, dance and story telling
- Service begins with the lighting of child-appropriate candles
- Ends with the blessings over juice and challah
- Attendance at this service counts toward Religious/Hebrew School service requirement for children up through 2nd grade

FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICE

- First Shabbat of the month at 7:00 pm
- A service for young and old in English and Hebrew
- A Shabbat service using **Mishkan T'filah for Youth**, led by Rabbi and Cantor with musical accompaniment
- student and parent participation encouraged
- Hear a story from Jewish tradition
- Junior choir participation
- Celebration of the month's birthdays and anniversaries
- An excellent learning opportunity as a transition to the 8:00 p.m. Shabbat Service
- Attendance at this service counts toward Religious/Hebrew School service requirement for all students

FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBAT SERVICE

- Every Friday night at 8:00 pm (except for the first Friday of the month).
- A Shabbat service from our regular prayer book, **Mishkan T'filah**, led by Rabbi and Cantor with musical accompaniment
- A faster-paced service in Hebrew and English for young and old
- Hear a D'var Torah, a word of Torah, drawn from Jewish teachings
- Adult choir participation on a periodic basis
- Torah service on scheduled Shabbats
- Attendance at this service counts toward Religious/Hebrew School service requirement for all students

Sisterhood of Temple Israel



The 2018-2019 year was another busy and eventful year in the life of Sisterhood of Temple Israel.

In early July, our newly installed officers began their terms of office and they immediately began planning our very full calendar.

In the fall, we carried out our holiday traditions of cleaning the ritual silver and providing our Congregation with Kiddush and Break-the-Fast following the High Holiday Services, a dairy-dish-to-share dinner for Sukkot and apples, raisins, nuts and flags for Simchat Torah. Every member of our Temple Community received our specially designed New Year's Card, a Sisterhood tradition which also serves as one of our main fundraising events. Due to our success with this fundraising activity, Sisterhood was able to purchase three brand new coat racks with hangers for our congregation.

We celebrated our membership with a Paid-Up Members Dinner & Program, instead of breakfast, for the second year. We were entertained by comedian Hilary Schwartz. October also saw our annual participation in the Breast Cancer Walk at South Beach. Sisterhood is proud to say that over \$1200 was donated by our Temple. We subsidized the cost of two of our members to attend the WRJ Northeast District Convention to represent our Sisterhood. We were invited to participate on a panel to present our successful Food Preparation Program to benefit Project Hospitality, which had been expanded during the 2017-2018 year as a result of having received a WRJ Incubator Grant.

In November, we held the annual Chanukah/Holiday Gift Fair sponsored by our Judaica Shop. We also held Temple Israel's very first Bingo Night which was a huge success.

The first of our two annual Rummage Sales was held in December, as was our annual Chanukah/New Members Shabbat Dinner. We welcomed the newest members of our Congregation with Sisterhood's long-standing tradition of presenting each family with a gift bag containing all the necessary components for a lovely Shabbat: candles, wine, challah and Shabbat Kit containing the prayers, along with a beautiful mezzuah. Gifts for those members who were unable to attend the dinner we delivered to their homes. Sisterhood also purchased new drip coffee makers to be used for smaller meetings and events and a replacement large coffee urn for the kitchen. The highlight of the month, however, was the incredible Chanukah Gelt Mosaic Mural that we created using over 7500 chocolate coins. The project was featured on SiLive and NY1 as well as in WRJ publications.

In January, because of a difficult calendar situation, we adjusted our traditional Tu B'Shevat event and held a Tu B'Shevat -themed Shabbat Oneg. Our members prepared creative desserts using the 7 species. Although we would like to return to our former traditions, we are considering maintaining the idea of this themed oneg for the Shabbat closest to Tu B'Shevat in the future. We held a fundraiser at the Looney Bin which was another successful event.

In accordance with our constitution, our nominating committee began the arduous task of forming a new slate of officers for the next year. Unfortunately, due to the difficulties associated with finding new volunteers willing to serve as leaders, a constitutional amendment waiving term limits (in extenuating circumstances) for Sisterhood Officers was proposed. The amendment was brought to a vote and was adopted.

At February's monthly meeting, we enjoyed a presentation by Patricia Salmon who spoke about Powerful Women of Staten Island. March kept us extremely busy with our second Rummage Sale of the year, a Chocolate Painting outing and guest speaker, Natalie Berhumoglu, from WRJ. Our Purim Shalach Manot gifts to sponsors and service attendees were the most extraordinary every seen and have become legendary in and outside of our temple. As part of the mitzvah of Shalach Manot, Sisterhood also made significant donations to multiple charitable organizations in Israel.

April was another incredibly busy month for us. We hosted 125 guests at our Annual Community Passover Seder, held an informative program entitled "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Shabbat Services But Were Afraid to Ask", had a ball at our Bowling Bonanza which was chaired by one of our very newest members, held a "Stop the Bleed/Active Shooter" training workshop, assisted with the service and kiddush for a congregant's wedding held at the temple, purchased new coffee mugs to replace our old cups and saucers and received word that we will be receiving another WRJ Incubator grant to grow our Chanukah Gelt Mosaic Project next year.

Looking forward to the next few months, we will hold our annual Election, Pizza and Game Night, our End-of-Year Dinner at which we will celebrate all of our accomplishments over the past year, and our Installation Shabbat Service where we will be able to acknowledge all our out-going and incoming leaders.

Our Officers and Directors will be meeting over the summer for training and to plan for next year. We are also planning to hold a Sisterhood Shabbaton on Saturday, September 14th, with a service, luncheon and program.

The programs at each of our monthly General Membership meetings this year provided us with spiritual, intellectual, physical and emotional experiences and learning. Our activities, both in and outside of the temple, raised thousands of dollars, allowing us to contribute to worthy charitable organizations on a monthly basis. The donations included Suicide Prevention, Project Hospitality, The Weissglass Memorial Seder, Autism Speaks, Pancreatic Cancer, Mogen David Adom, American Cancer Society, Jewish Women International, and among others.

We are extremely proud of our members whose work in our Temple and community are honored by organizations across Staten Island including the UJA, the JCC and Project Hospitality. We look forward to celebrating them at our own Temple Gala as well.

Through all of this, Sisterhood takes pride in maintaining the long-standing rituals and traditions of our synagogue including our Judaica Shop, presentation of gifts to all Bnei Mitzvah students and Confirmants (teenagers or adults!), shopping for, preparing and serving at onegs, and supporting our congregants and our Temple.

We maintain contact with our umbrella organizations, Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) and Union of Reform Judaism (URJ) via direct contact with liaisons and leadership and through electronic

conversations on The Tent and Yammer. We work closely with every committee in the Temple, especially Ritual, House, Membership, Certificates, Caring Community, Social Action and the Avis Foundation to provide seamless service to our congregants and our temple.

Our fundraisers allow for Sisterhood to make significant contributions to Temple Israel:

- over \$4500 as a cash donation (to date) to be used as needed;
- over \$2000 for unsponsored Shabbat Onegs;
- over \$500 for Wine and Grape Juice and challahs for all Kiddushes;
- over \$3500 for kitchen supplies (including all paper goods, kitchen equipment ,cups, plastic utensils, table -cloths, serving- ware, coffee/tea, table cloths and laundering, etc. used by almost all Temple committees and organizations);
- over \$1500 for ritual and community support (including journal ads, gifts, holiday rituals, congregant support, etc.)

We also support the Temple Certificate Program by purchasing supermarket certificates to be used for all of our events. We purchase Amazon certificates, so that the Temple can doubly benefit from any orders placed through Amazon Smile, a service which we have tried to take advantage of as much as possible this year.

Sisterhood's biggest challenge is our membership. Although we have over eighty members on paper, the number of actively involved members is dwindling. We are happy to report that a few of our newest members have become more actively involved this year. As we look toward next year, we will be exploring ways in which to involve and engage the newest members of community even more so that Sisterhood's history, traditions and significance in Temple Israel continue.

We are happy to be able to support Temple Israel and grateful to all those who do work for, sustain and appreciate the work of Sisterhood. We look forward to continuing to grow.

Jedi Siegel & Shariann Ganz
Co-Presidents



THE BROTHERHOOD

Temple Israel – Reform Congregation of Staten Island

315 Forest Ave. Staten Island, NY 10301

brotherhoodpresident.ti.si@gmail.com

Jeff Ganz President

BROTHERHOOD ANNUAL REPORT TO THE CONGREGATION

Brotherhood had a very productive year. We had 47 Members on our roster this year. Thank you to all of the Men of this congregation that made the commitment to join.

We started our year with our Annual Bar B Que which was a huge success. Many thanks to Kevin Lipsitz who spearheaded the project along with all those that helped out.

We kicked off the year off with our joint Breakfast with Sisterhood. Monthly meetings were held to take care of our business. Thank you to Sisterhood who allowed us to join them for breakfast a few times this past season. Once again, we were instrumental in helping the Temple with many things. We put up the Sukkah which was then decorated by our Religious School children. On Simchat Torah we held our Ice Cream Sundae Oneg. In December we held a very successful Chanukah Party for our children. We also had our annual Chanukah Card which was sent to all the members of our congregation. Big thanks go to Joanna Meltzer, who designed and printed the card. Our Purim Carnival was a huge success and the children of the congregation as well as others who were informed about it had a great time. We had a very inspiring Men's Seder for Passover. Thank you to Rabbi Howald for providing us with a new Haggadah which brought back the spiritual and religious aspects of the holiday. We provided the yellow Yom Hashoa Candle to the members of our congregation a very important need so that we never forget the Holocaust. Thank you to . Nominations of Officers and Directors for the coming year were made at our April meeting and voted upon unanimously at our May meeting. Speaking of that meeting we held a Dinner meeting which was enjoyed by all. Financially we donated \$2500 to Temple. This year we are sharing a gift with Sisterhood to our Confirmands. As the year draws to a close we will hold our paid up breakfast on Sunday June 23 and an End of Year Dinner on May 21

This year continued the practice of starting our meetings off with a Tzedukah donation in honor of something we are celebrating or thankful for. I am happy to say we have made many wonderful donations throughout this year to many worthwhile causes.

Thank you to all the outgoing officers and Directors for the past year and thank you so much for your hard work and dedication to our Brotherhood. I look forward to working collaboratively with everyone to make next year just as great if not better.

We are all here to make Temple Israel the leader in Reform Judaism and a strong voice on Staten Island.

Yours in friendship and Brotherhood

Jeff Ganz President

Certificates Committee

Good Evening.

In September of 2018 the certificate fundraising effort got a fresh start. With seed money from Temple Israel general funds we began to amass an inventory of gift certificates. We started with 3 local supermarkets and we now offer 16 different certificates including:

Amazon

Bed Bath and Beyond

Best Buy

CVS

Dicks Sporting Goods

Duncan Donuts

Home Depot

Key Food

Macys

Shoprite

Staples

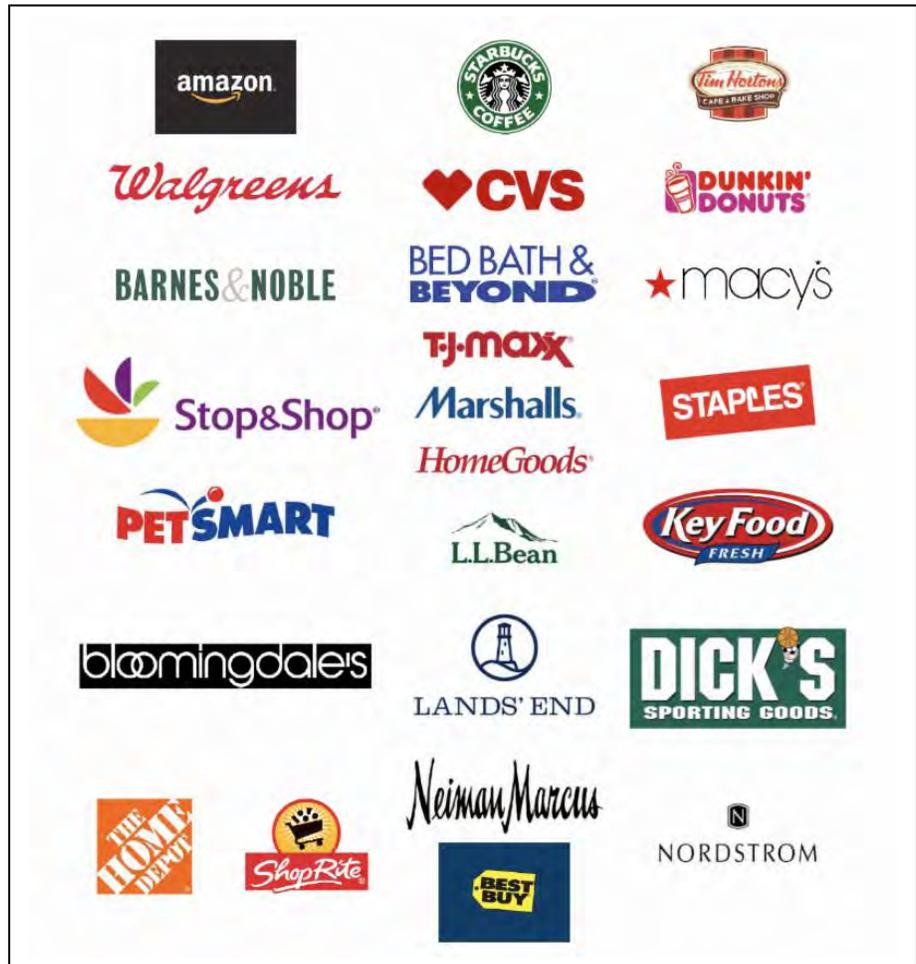
Starbucks

Stop and Shop

Tim Horton

TJ Maxx/Marshalls

Walgreens



Other certificates can be ordered.

We currently have an inventory of \$7,000 worth of certificates and a cash donation of \$1,000 has been made to Temple.

We are grateful to the 33 families that have participated in this program; many from day one and others who began this week.

Please make note of all the certificates that we carry. I am sure every member family without exception can make use of certificates from one or more of these vendors.

Please see me at the end of the meeting to continue your participation or begin purchasing certificates today.

Together we will make this program very profitable.

Respectfully submitted
Larry Hanibal

Caring Community

It has been a difficult year for our Temple Israel community. We have lost many friends and relatives and our hearts go out to all of the families of the departed. May their memories be a blessing.

We want to thank all of those at Temple Israel who help when we ask. You truly make our Temple a Caring Community.

At Temple Israel we take pride in our ability to come together to help our members in times of need. Whether it be for a Shiva, for an illness or for a hospitalization, we do our best to help our fellow congregants, our Jewish Family.

When illness or other misfortune strikes a member of our community, we try to help by arranging with volunteers to provide rides to doctors and hospitals, driving family members to visit patients, visiting those who are homebound, picking up needed items or asking members to cook for those who need to feed their families during an illness.

Caring Community is financially supported by the generous donations of many of our congregants and is often funded through a “pay it forward” mentality by those who have been helped.

When a family suffers a loss, Caring Community is there to support the mourners. We help provide food for after the funeral, or just for the family, within an amount budgeted by Caring Community for each Shiva. If the family was active in Brotherhood, Sisterhood or the Temple Board additional food or refreshments may be sent to the family according to the policies of those groups.

When a Congregant loses a family member we try our best to help them in any way we can. If people (often including Temple members) are coming back to the house after the service we try to provide a repast for them. Sometimes we bring dinner just for the family. We discuss with the mourner what they want done and if it is within the budget for the Shiva, Caring Community supplies what is requested. If it is beyond that budget, we tell the family that we can supply what they want but they will have to contribute.

Some people don't want much put out even when we offer, while others want a large amount of food available for anyone who visits. Sometimes additional food is provided by family or friends.

Often members of our Temple help to set up and clean up at the Shiva to take that burden off of the family so they don't have to worry about anyone but themselves. They help by putting things out that were provided by Caring Community, that people bring or that the family has brought, keeping things tidy, setting up coffee, cleaning up at the end of the Shiva and doing what they can to make a difficult time easier for the bereaved. Caring Community does its best to help where we can.

So if you go to a Shiva and there is nothing on the table, it is because the family wanted it that way. If there is a table overflowing, it is because the family wanted it that way and we may have supplied it but didn't necessarily pay for it. We do kosher or non kosher as the family requests. We try to do what we can to help ease the difficulty our congregants are struggling with when losing a loved one.

May you all be blessed with health and happiness.

Pamela Rogozin

Social Action Committee

SOCIAL ACTION IS IN DIRE NEED OF FUNDS. WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE OUR MITZVAHS WITHOUT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS COMMITTEE.

PLEASE HELP!!!!!!

The Social Action Committee at Temple Israel tries its best to help with things that our congregation and Rabbi are involved with in the community. This year we were involved with the Communities United for Respect and Trust Anti-Violence/Anti-Bias Summit held in October by helping to develop and organize the summit, distribute flyers and prepare a meal for the attendees. We attended and hosted the Loving Staten Island dinners, which is an interfaith program bringing together members of our community who want to enjoy a bring a dish to share meal and special programs with those from our community who have different religions. This program meets each month in a different house of worship, let us know if you would like more information about this program. We helped collect and deliver food and personal items to Coast Guard Employees. While the Government Shutdown was in effect we collected food and personal items at the temple to donate at Ft. Wadsworth to help those in the Coast Guard who were in need. We have attended meetings about things that are occurring within our community and in the world and been to services to pray for those who have been cruelly attacked.

Our Social Action Committee continues to provide Backpacks at the end of the year to the Silver Lake Head Start program graduates who use our classrooms during the week for their program. Thanks to generous donations by our congregants we have been able to do this mitzvah now for a number of years and hope to be able to continue for years to come. We will be attending their graduation ceremony on June 20th and welcome anyone from the congregation who wishes to join us in congratulating these students on their “step up”.

We have provided food for the poor numerous times this year including dinner for 2 centers on Christmas day. This mitzvah is only accomplished with the help of congregants who give of their time to prepare and deliver food for those less fortunate than ourselves. We are blessed to have congregants who come whenever there is a need.

We continue to collect diapers, although we have not had too many contributions of this type recently. If you have diapers to donate, please leave them at the Temple at any time.

Of course, none of the things Social Action does could be accomplished without the generous donations of our congregants. Please help us continue our important work for our community by donating both your time (for food prep events if you are available) and funds. Thank you so much for your support!

The Social Action Committee is always ready to hear about a social cause that you would like to help with. Please do not hesitate to let us know your ideas.

Pamela Rogozin, Committee Chair

ADULT LEARNERS -- 2018-2019

Co-Chairs- Cheryl Levine and Judith Pessah.

Members— Linda Brill, Maxine Cohen, Pamela Carlton, Deanna Feder, Judy Lee, Susan Marks, Beverly Mazer, Blanche Ricci and Pamela Rogozin.

We began the year by changing our Committee name from Adult Education to Adult Learners, emphasizing individual participation in the learning process.

We are working in conjunction with Terry Baver and Bryn Biren, and the Avis Foundation, enabling us to fund programs that have a fee.

The year was filled with a delightful variety of activities.

Shows

- “Fiddler on the Roof”, in Yiddish, at the Museum of Jewish Heritage,
- “The Immigrant” at the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, N.J.

Book Discussions

- “Sima’s Undergarments for Women,” by Ilana Stanger Ross, The story of a Brooklyn Shopkeeper
- “After Anatevka” by Alexandra Silver, a follow up to Fiddler on the Roof, (and we attended a discussion by the author)
- And tomorrow night, May17, 8:00 “The Lemon Tree”, by Sandy Tolan. An Israeli story comparing the lives of an Arab and a Jew.

Talks

- Henry Salmon, son of Egon Salmon, talked about his father’s voyage to America on the Steamship St. Louis , the ship that was refused entry to our port.
- We welcomed Rabbis Gerald and Bonnie Sussman, representing the organization Kulanu, to present ““Lost Tribes and Spiritual Seekers”: The Quest for Judaism” They spoke of many trips around the world to visit Jews living in societies where we would not expect them to be.
- And coming up on May 21-6PM Tour, 7PM Lecture. We will tour the John Noble Museum and then listen to a talk about “Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean” by Sheri Baver. Who knew? Funded by the Avis Foundation. (For fun, Read the Children’s PJ Library “Jean Laffite, The Pirate Who Saved America “ by Susan Goldman Rubin.

Visits

- A small group of us visited the Bukharian Community in Rego Park Queens. We will return to learn more about this community that is neither Sephardic nor Ashkenazi in background.
- We explored the workings of the St. George Theater, with a guide, and then lunched in a local restaurant.
- Next, on May 30 Time TBA We will have a short tour of the Urban Glass Factory in Brooklyn, followed (of course) by lunch at Junior’s.

Planning for the Future

- A talk by member Joel Goldberg on his book about being a judge, Yiddish Lessons
- A discussion by Rabbi Howald on the Jewish Concepts of the Afterlife and the Soul
- A visit to the Museum of Jewish Heritage to view their new Holocaust exhibit
- A visit to the Wagner College Holocaust Center to hear a talk by Lori Weintrob

Many, many thanks to all our members who have worked so hard in planning all our wonderful programs. Please contact us if you have any ideas for Adult Learners.

Cheryl Levine and Judy Pessah

FUNdraising Committee

Did you miss that we did not have a fall event? The good news is that the FUNdraising committee is back to bring you FUN and FUNds for our Temple. Our new co-chairs are Rhonda Trontz-Allen, Karen Frey-Gamoran, and Lissa Winchel. And here are our two events that are happening now.

- ☆ This Saturday, May 18 we will be hosting a Night at The Races. It will be open to families with children .By making it free for children under the age of 13 we hope the school families will join the fun. Flyers are in the lobby.
- ☆ On Thursday, June 20, if you dine at Jimmy Maxx from noon to 10 PM and bring the flyer, Jimmy Maxx will donate a portion of your bill to Temple.

We hope to see you Saturday!!

Co chairs Rhonda Trontz-Allen, Lissa Winchel Karen Frey Gamoran

* * IMPORTANT REMINDER * *



Shalom!

The regular printed Bulletin has gone digital!
Are you getting it, as well as the weekly News & Notes?

Fill out and drop off the form if you need to update our records.

E-Shalom can be e-mailed to up to two people per household. *(If you are not at ease at a computer, don't worry - we can still mail it to you – make sure you check the box on the form.)*
The electronic bulletin will be in color, and contain links to flyers and other information so you can print them out at home.

If you need to update your information, please fill out and return the form below so can update your preferences. You can also e-mail the information to the Temple Office at TMPLISRAEL@AOL.COM with the information (please put "Member e-mail information" in the subject line.)

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	FAMILY MEMBER 1	FAMILY MEMBER 2
Name		
Email address *		
Also Subscribe this address to:		
Weekly News & Notes	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
"Sudden & Serious" **	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Special event reminders	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no

And / or I still need to receive printed copy.

* Capital "i"s and "o"s and lower case "L"s can be confused with the numbers "1" and "0." If you use any of those in your e-mail address, please make it clear which they are. Thank you.

** "Sudden and Serious" e-mails contain timely information about Temple family deaths, serious illness or families in immediate need of assistance. [Privacy Note – just as with "Family Happenings" in News & Notes, information in these e-mails is released ONLY with the consent of the family.]

All e-mail addresses will receive reminders of the February, May or special congregational meetings and urgent information about building closures or event changes/cancellations.

Please return this form to the Temple Israel office, 315 Forest Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10301.